

Certification Policy 01-N(u) : Recertification Verification Gap

Original policy written February 2001

Policy updated January 2002

Updated portions are underlined

Background: Certification §157.33 eliminates the 90 day continuance for recertifying candidates. The 90 day continuance provided a cushion period for those who were unable to coordinate their renewal within their expiration date and region exam schedules. This has created a problem for some providers who are not able to work medics that have not received their renewed certificate but have completed application procedures and taken the written evaluation.

Statute Reference: Health and Safety Code, Section 773.059 - A person who is otherwise eligible to renew a certificate may renew an unexpired certificate by paying the required renewal fee to the department before the expiration date of the certificate. A person whose certificate has expired may not engage in activities that require certification until the certificate has been renewed.

Rule Reference: ~~Certification §157.33 - (j)(2) After verification by the department of the information submitted by the certificant, a certificant who meets requirements of this subsection will be recertified for four years commencing on the day following the expiration date of the most recent certificate. A new certificate and wallet-sized certificate signed by department officials shall be issued.~~

Recertification §157.34 (c) - After verification by the department of the information submitted by the applicant, that the information is true, correct and complete with regard to the applicant meeting recertification requirements by the certification expiration date, the department shall recertify the applicant for four years, commencing on the day following the expiration date of the most recent certificate.

Policy: The intent of the Bureau is to allow the candidate, applying for renewal in a timely manner (to include appropriate processing time of 10 days), uninterrupted certification between certificate periods. Candidates who successfully complete all recertification requirements prior to their expiration date, ~~including the written evaluation,~~ will have their certification renewed. The same candidate who reaches expiration date and has not received the renewed certificate and ID card will be considered certified.

The Bureau's web certification search site is an official TDH record and may be used as verification of the candidate's continued certification (between the candidates' expiration date and receiving the renewed certificate and ID card).

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(u) denotes updated policy